

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

pplicant: Thomas MacLean

Serial No.: 10/642,719 : Group Art Unit: 3745

Filed: August 18, 2003 : Examiner: James M. McAleenan

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR FABRICATING

GAS TURBINE ENGINES

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- Issue Fee Transmittal (1 page, in duplicate)
- Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (1 page)
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Respectfully submitted,

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METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR For:

FABRICATING GAS TURBINE ENGINES

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

The following comments are in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowability dated October 1, 2004.

Applicant believes that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance in this case is improper, as reasons for allowance are only warranted in instances in which the record of the prosecution as a whole does not make clear the Examiner's reasons for allowing a claim or claims (see 37 CFR §1.104(e)). In the present case, Applicants believe the record as a whole does make the reasons for allowance clear and therefore no statement by the Examiner is necessary or warranted. Furthermore, Applicants do not necessarily agree with each statement in the reasons for allowance and do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's interpretation of the teachings of the cited art.

Respectfully Submitted,

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